



Heyl Royster is a sophisticated, experienced law firm focused first and foremost on its clients. Utilizing multiple areas of expertise, firm-wide collaboration and teamwork, Heyl Royster partners with its clients to generate innovative strategies designed to achieve client goals. With strategically-located offices throughout Illinois, the firm quickly identifies important issues and efficiently provides regional client-centric services with national impact.

Progressive. Innovative. Collaborative. For a century, our firm has served the legal needs of individuals and businesses throughout the Midwest. Our attorneys are known for their commitment to representing our clients' interests, and our practice areas have earned a solid reputation for success. Our belief is the best result is achieved by viewing our clients and attorneys as a team.



Attorneys

Heyl Royster partners with our clients to generate innovative strategies designed to achieve client goals. We accomplish this by utilizing multiple areas of expertise, firm-wide collaboration and teamwork. Our attorneys are leaders in the firm and the community.

Offices

Heyl Royster serves clients in every county in Illinois. We have offices in six major population centers in Illinois - Peoria, Springfield, Urbana, Rockford, Edwardsville, and Chicago - which allows us to appear in any Illinois state or federal court quickly, effectively, and cost-efficiently for our clients. Our offices collaborate with each other and with our clients to achieve client goals.

Career Opportunities

Heyl Royster's attorneys and staff know us as an exceptional place to work in a professional, collegial, and ethical environment - one where you can make friends for life. Our reputation, high-profile clients, and the caliber of our professional and administrative team put us on par with the large firms based in big cities. And like smaller firms, we are mutually respectful and team-oriented. Our locations provide our lawyers with a great quality of life. Let us show you what we have to offer.

History of the Firm

Our firm began in 1910 when Clarence W. Heyl opened his law practice in Peoria, Illinois. Clarence quickly established a reputation as one of the premier trial lawyers in downstate Illinois. Although he handled many types of cases, Clarence built a strong practice in the field of insurance defense. Clarence also earned respect for his ethics and professionalism, eventually being honored as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and with election as President of the Illinois State Bar Association.



Just after World War II, William J. Voelker, Jr. joined the firm, and in 1948, the firm of Heyl, Royster & Voelker was established. Bill was an outstanding trial lawyer and later took over management of the firm. Bill was elected President of the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel in 1970, the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education in 1973-77, and a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Lyle W. Allen joined the firm in 1951. Lyle had a broad practice and was one of the first lawyers in downstate Illinois to represent doctors in malpractice cases, gaining a particularly fine reputation in that field. In 1962, the firm changed its name to Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen. Lyle was elected President of the Illinois State Bar Association in 1972-73, and was a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. The expansion of our firm has been continuous since the early 1970's.

Diversity

Our firm is committed to being a leader in creating diversity in the communities in which we practice. Recognizing that downstate Illinois communities have not attracted sufficiently diverse legal professionals, we have publicly taken steps to address this issue and continue to make it one of our priorities.

Our firm adopted the following Diversity Policy to guide us in recruiting, hiring, and promoting lawyers:

Heyl Royster is committed to recruiting, retaining, and promoting attorneys and staff members regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, national origin, physical ability, or religion. Our goal is that our law firm will reflect the diversity of the communities in which we practice.

We have taken the Peoria County Bar Association's pledge to:

- ❖ Provide equal opportunities to all applicants for employment, avoiding discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, disability and age.
- ❖ Support the efforts of the Peoria County Bar Association to increase the number of minority lawyers practicing in the area through our hiring practices.
- ❖ Promote an attitude within our firm or organization which is open and welcoming to minority lawyers, staff and clients.
- ❖ Identify our firm or organization as an equal opportunity employer in recruitment materials including those posted and distributed at law schools.
- ❖ Participate in Minority Job Forums and other similar events sponsored by the Peoria County Bar Association if we anticipate having an opening in our firm or organization.
- ❖ Invite potentially qualified minority applicants to our office for face to face interviews upon receipt of a resume or other inquiry expressing interest in an opening.

Pro Bono Service

Heyl Royster has been recognized as a leader in providing pro bono services. Lawyers in each of our offices assist local organizations in their communities with transactional or litigation problems. Our firm's Peoria office has a formal program of assisting the local Legal Service Corporation recipient, Prairie State Legal Services, Inc., with its caseload.

In late 2004, we committed to handling 30 family law cases per year from Prairie State in Peoria and surrounding counties. We have met that commitment each year. Our pro bono program with Prairie State is handled primarily by our first and second year associates and a paralegal coordinator. This effort allows our younger attorneys to be involved in cases from start to finish, affords them client interaction and courtroom experience, and helps those in need.

Our firm was honored as the Pro Bono Firm of the Year by the Peoria County Bar Association, in association with Prairie State, in 2006-2009. Several of our younger lawyers have been individually recognized for their pro bono efforts. The firm continues to do extensive pro bono work for Prairie State's clients.

Heyl Royster Women's Forum



The professional development and advancement of women in the firm, and the legal profession at large, is of paramount importance at Heyl Royster. Recognizing that women face unique challenges in the practice and business of law, Heyl Royster formed its Women's Forum - a firmwide initiative designed to foster, highlight, and promote our women attorneys.

The mission of Heyl Royster's Women's Forum is to provide a means for communication and coordination among the women attorneys of the firm in order to:

- Foster professional development and increased collaboration among our women attorneys
- Strengthen client relationships
- Increase and promote diversity within the firm
- Enhance recruitment, retention and promotion of women attorneys
- Implement plans and programs consistent with the firm's strategic goals

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